

HE NAVIGATOR

Helping Seniors Get From Here to There

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Where do you turn when you give up your drivers license?

Special points of interest:

- Introducing Connecting Caring Communities
- Transportation Options for Seniors
- Lilac Bus-Group Trips
- Specialized Transportation
- West Central Interfaith— Volunteer Drivers

Area Connecting Caring Community Project Focuses on Transportation Needs for Seniors

The West Allis - West Milwaukee Connecting Caring Communities project (WAWM CCC) is a collaborative partnership of interested public, private and non-profit organizations who serve older adults in West Allis and West Milwaukee. The project's goal is to make our community more livable for older people by connecting them with organizations, businesses and people who can assist them in a wide variety of ways. There are similar efforts underway in a

number of other neighborhoods in Milwaukee County as well as in a number of cities around the country.

There is a growing trend to look at communities from the perspective of older adults. This allows communities to see that the ordinary things we do everyday may pose problems to someone with health issues and/or limited income. Transportation is one such issue for older adults. We hope this information will be helpful.

Milwaukee County Transportation System (MCTS) Options for Seniors

Milwaukee County Transit System (MCTS) offers two types of transportation: One is the <u>Public</u> Bus and the other is Transit Plus.

Public Bus Service

All of the public buses that serve Milwaukee County have wheelchair access and there is also special handicap seating in the front of the bus for seniors or handicapped riders.

The following SPECIAL bus line runs once a day and is NOT

wheelchair accessible – Route 8 Quad/Graphics – Sussex/Pewaukee.

Adult fare is \$2.00 cash or ticket, 10 for \$16.50. Senior Citizens (age 65 and older) and Disabled Persons' fares are \$1.00 each, cash or tickets, 10 for \$10.00. Disabled riders must present a Milwaukee County Transit photo I.D. or a valid Medicare card. Drivers do not have change so exact fares are recommended.

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MCTS - Options for Seniors

Transit System Phone Numbers

Route, Schedule & Fare Information: 414-344-6711

Monday - Friday 6:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. Saturday/Sunday 6:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.

TTY for Hearing Impaired: 414-937-3299

Lost Articles: 414-937-3206

Ticket Location Brochure: 414-344-6711

www.ridemcts.com

Transit Plus

Transit Plus is a transportation service for individuals with a disabling illness or condition that prevents them from using the public buses.

Eligibility

- A person with a disability who can not independently board, ride or get off a bus.
- A person with a disability who could use an accessibility fixedroute bus, but none are available for the desired trip.
- A person whose disability-related condition or an environmental barrier makes it impossible to independently travel to and from a fixed route bus stop.

Ride Information

- Rides in Milwaukee County are available from 4:30 a.m. to 1 a.m.
- Rides must be requested no less than 24 hours and no more than 2 weeks in advance by calling 414-264-7433, Ext. 3.

Cost

- You must pay \$3.25 each way in cash or with a ticket.
- You may take another person with you for an additional fee of 75 cents. Personal Care Attendants ride free.
- For more information, please contact Transit Plus at 414-343-1700.

How to Apply

- Call 414-343-1700 (voice) or 414-343-1704 (TTY) to request an application.
- You will need to submit documentation from a licensed medical professional regarding the disability that prevents you from using the MCTS buses.
- After completing the application, call 414-343-1700 (voice) or 414-343-1704 (TTY) to set up an appointment for an in-person functional assessment. The office is located at 1942 N. 17th Street in Milwaukee. The assessment takes about 45 minutes.
- Applicants must arrange their own transportation to and from the Transit Plus office for the assessment and language interpreter, if needed.

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Planning for the day you "retire" from driving, just makes good sense. continued from page 2

MCTS - Options for Seniors

Transit Plus - Taxicab Rides

Eligibility & Ride Information

People eligible for Transit Plus are also eligible for taxicab rides. Taxi Service is offered curb-to-curb to ambulatory individuals and wheelchair users who can transfer without assistance. Drivers do not assist riders.

For Taxi Service call: American United 414-220-5000

Taxicab service does not require an advance reservation. You may make same day pick-up reservations. Callers must arrange their own language interpreter.

Cost - Taxicab Fares

Since taxicab trips are paid on a time and mileage based meter charge, the entire cost of a taxicab trip may not be covered by the \$3.25 rider fare. If the meter exceeds \$14.60, the rider is

responsible for the initial \$3.25 fare, plus any amount in excess of \$14.60. One companion is allowed to



she will be charged 75 cents for every ride. Personal Care

Attendants are not charged a fare.

Transit Plus clients must sign a voucher, supplied by the taxi driver, for each trip. A fee will be charged for each destination. Multiple stops are not allowed. You must contact American United for a cab for each trip and you must pay the rider fare for each trip. Taxicabs are privately owned and drivers may accept tips. (Tipping is customary for good service.)

How to Apply

For information, call the Transit Plus office at 414-343-1700.

Lilac Bus—Group Transportation

The Lilac Bus provides transportation for groups of seniors to attend social activities primarily in the West Allis Area. Individuals are picked up at their places of residence and taken on various group outings - shopping, lunch and area local attractions.



Riders must pre-register for any individual outings. The bus cost is \$3.00 per person per organized trip.

Individuals then pay for their own lunch, admissions, etc.

Call 414-302-8715 for information on upcoming Lilac Bus Trips. If you get the answering machine, leave a message and include your name and phone number. Messages are checked regularly by the Lilac Bus's Volunteer Ride Coordinator.

West Allis Rotary sponsors the Lilac Bus. Area businesses are invited and encouraged to assist with ongoing Lilac Bus expenses in order to continue providing these needed services to seniors in the community. Call 414-302-8715 to sponsor a group trip.



Surviving life after driving maintaining mobility, dignity and independence. PAGE 4 THE NAVIGATOR

Milwaukee County Department on Aging (MCDA) Specialized Transportation Programs for Ages 60+

The Milwaukee County Department on Aging (MCDA) helps adults, age 60 and over, with the following special transportation programs: Transit EXPRESS (specialized transportation for the elderly) and Transit PLUS (Milwaukee County's paratransit service for the disabled). Call the Aging Resource Center at 414-289-6874 for help in determining which program is right for you. The following are brief descriptions of the programs available.

Transit EXPRESS

Specialized Elderly Transportation

Offers advanced-scheduled, door-todoor transportation for medical appointments, grocery shopping, Senior Meal Program sites, Senior Centers and nursing home visits.

. Eligibility

- Live in Milwaukee County.
- Be age 60 or older.
- Be able to walk but unable to drive.
- Have difficulty in using public transit.
- Need specialized transportation, as determined by MCDA. (A Transportation I.D. Card will be issued to you.)

You cannot be currently eligible for Transit Plus, Milwaukee County's paratransit service for persons with disabilities.

Ride Information

- Rides are provided within Milwaukee County.
- Monday through Friday generally from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Rides are not available on major holidays.

- Drivers will assist passengers to board and exit the vehicle, fasten seat belts, escort door to door and carry shopping bags.
- Rides must be reserved a week in advance for individual rides.
- For group rides, reservations must be made 2 3 days in advance.

Cost

- There is no fee for non-medical rides, but contributions to help support the program are appreciated. (No tipping please.)
- Medical rides cost \$3.00 each way.
- If you have a Medical Assistance (Title 19) card and your physician approves the ride, Medical Assistance (Title 19) may cover all but \$1.00 of the cost of your medical rides. If you are enrolled in a Medicaid HMO call your provider to arrange for rides to medical appointments.

How To Apply

Call the Aging Resource Center at 414-289-6874 for specific information on completing an application. If approved, you will get a transportation card in the mail along with instructions on how to make reservations.

Transit PLUS

Medical Assistance Rides

Transportation for individuals of any age with a disabling condition or illness that prevents them from using public bus service. Information and assistance specialists at the Aging Resource Center can help you apply

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Finding out more about your transportation options can keep you connected to your community and participating in the activities that are important to you.

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Specialized Transportation

for this paratransit service for the disabled. (Described in detail on page 2.)

Eligibility

To be eligible for the Transit PLUS program you must:

- Be disabled so that you cannot independently board or get off a bus.
- Be disabled so that you can use an accessible fixed route bus, but none are available for the desired trip.
- Have a disability-related condition or environmental barrier that makes it impossible to independently travel to and from a fixed route bus stop.
- You will need to submit documentation from a licensed medical professional and schedule an in-person functional assessment.

Ride Information

- Rides must be requested no less than 24 hours and no more than 2 weeks in advance.
- Another person may accompany the rider for an additional charge of 75 cents.
- Personal care attendants ride free of charge.

Cost

There is a charge of \$3.25 each way payable in cash or ticket.

How To Apply

For more information on Transit PLUS, contact the Aging Resource Center of Milwaukee County at 414-289-6874.

Wisconsin Division of Motor Vehicles

The Wisconsin Division of Motor Vehicles can provide the following services.

Wisconsin Photo Identification Card If you are unable to drive, you will want to obtain a Wisconsin Identification (I.D.) card. The I.D. card costs \$28.00 and is renewable every 8 years.

Disabled Plates/ Parking Placards

For information on obtaining disabled plates or parking placards for people with disabilities, phone 414-266-1000 (voice), 800-947-3529 (TTY) or visit their Website:

www.dot.wisconsin.gov

Ombudsman Help Available

The Office for Persons with Disabilities Ombudsman is available to assist you with your transportation-related inquiries or problems. Phone: 414-278-3933 (voice) or 414-278-3937 (TTY).



Information
in this
publication is
subject to
change without
notice.



WEST ALLIS-WEST MILWAUKEE CONNECTING CARING COMMUNITIES





West Central Interfaith

West Central Interfaith, an Interfaith Neighborhood Outreach Program, provides rides to older adults 60 and older that live within its neighborhood geographic boundaries.

Rides are provided according to volunteer availability. Rides may be used for doctor's appointments, grocery shopping, trips to the bank or pharmacy, or other places as drivers are available. Limited language interpretation.

Riders must be ambulatory and able to walk safely from their residence to the volunteer's vehicle. In most cases, requests for rides must be made at least two weeks in advance of appointments. There is no charge for rides, but donations to West Central Interfaith are appreciated. Call 414-774-1747.



United Way of Greater Milwaukee

